## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Confirmation No.: 1167.



In re application of:

Robert W. Blakesley Appl. No.: 09/883,183

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: Methods for Preventing Inhibition of Nucleic Acid Synthesis by

Pyrophosphate

Atty. Docket: 0942.4150002

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended four months from August 17, 2003 to December 17, 2003 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$1,480.00 for a four month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

12/18/2003 AUDNDAF1 00000030 09AA31A3

02 FC:1254

1480-00 OP

Respectfully submitted.

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 32,893

Date: \_\_\_December 16, 2003

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600